

Application No.: 09/450,236
Amendment Dated: June 14, 2004
Reply to Office Action of: March 12, 2004

MAT-7867US

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamashita et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,146,345) in view of Senda (U.S. Patent No. 5,496,116). It is respectfully submitted, however, that these claims are patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Applicants' invention is recited by claim 1, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

... a writing medium ... where image information is written,

... reading means for reading said image information, printing means for printing said image information ...

... control means for adjustably controlling driving of said reading means ... so that initiation of driving of said reading means being synchronous with initiation of printing of said printing means.

This feature was originally found in claim 2. The Official Action refers the Applicant to column 5, lines 15-20, where the controller controls printing. Specifically, at the aforementioned lines, it is stated:

The control unit 5d controls the printer mechanism 5e to print the information on the recording paper 5i, which is then discharged through the outlet slot 5a.

While Applicant acknowledges that the reference discloses a control unit to control the printer mechanism, there is no disclosure of the ability to adjustably control driving of the reading mechanism so that it is synchronous with initiation of printing of the printing means. As this feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, claim 1 is patentable over the art of record.

Claims 33 and 34 are newly added. Claim 33 recites a controller which synchronizes driving of the optical reader with driving of the printer. Again, this feature is lacking from the art of record. Accordingly, claim 33 (and claim 34 dependent thereon) are patentable over the art of record.

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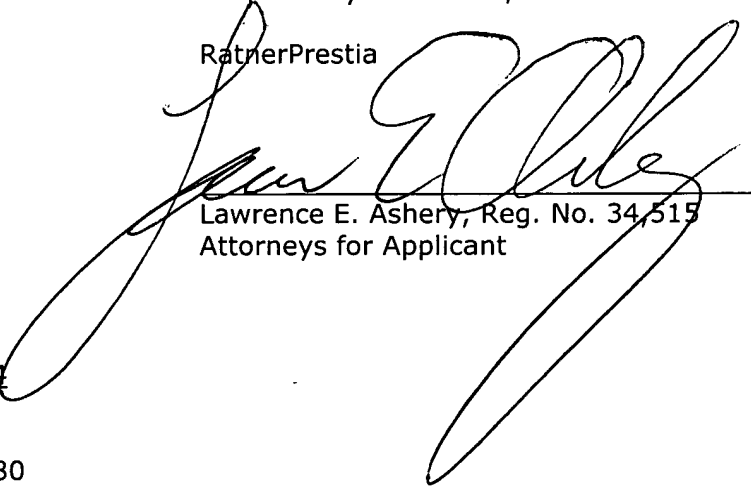
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Claims 35-38 are also newly added. These claims recite the feature that the information which is written on the writing surface is handwritten. The Senda reference is completely unrelated to handwritten writing. Thus, there is no motivation to use the Senda reference in combination with Yamashita. For this reason, newly added claims 35-38 are patentable over the art of record.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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